Appendix I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 126 asked by Sri S. B. Adityan, at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 7th November 1947, page 669 supra.]

Note on the working of the Grow More Food Campaign under the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

The Grow More Food Campaign to intensify the cultivation of food crops in lands belonging to religious institutions was started by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board in 1943. The Board was, from time to time, issuing circulars to all the temple authorities (trustees and paid servants of the Board) in districts emphasising the need to bring every bit of uncultivated land under cultivation. During their tours, the President and Commissioners of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board impressed upon the trustees and paid officers of the Board the necessity to put forth their best efforts for the improvement of temple lands and submit their proposals to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board for sanction. Special provisions for expenditure were also made in the budgets of several religious institutions in connection with the Grow More Food activities. Conferences of trustees and paid officers of important religious institutions were held and problems that arose in executing the Grow More Food Campaign in actual practice were discussed and solved. In July 1944 when the Assistant Commissioners for the Hindu Religious Endowments Board were appointed, they were directed to bestow special attention to study the agricultural position of the lands of every religious institution and to give suitable directions to the trustees and paid officers for effecting improvements in the cultivation of temple lands. The trustees of temples and the paid officers were also instructed to avail themselves of the subsidies and similar concessions offered by Government for the purpose of sinking new wells and for making adequate provisions for proper manuring to increase the production of food crops. In 1945, two Special Agricultural Demonstrators were appointed to investigate the scope and for effecting increased cultivation. During the period, they inspected the lands of various religious institutions and in their inspection notes, made several recommendations and these recommendations were communicated by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board to the executive authorities of the concerned temples with instructions to carry them out and to put them into effect promptly after submitting plans and estimates and obtaining the Board's sanction.

The progress made by the religious institutions ever since the starting of the Grow More Food Campaign till 30th June 1947 is as shown below :—

	ACRES.
(1) Waste land reclaimed and brought under cultivation	683
(2) Dry land converted into wet	4,641
(3) Single crop wet land converted into double crop	5,533